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EDGAR SNOWDEN.

ALEXANDRIA:  
TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 22, 1859.

The Washington States, at once, joins issue with the Pennsylvania Democracy, in relation to the Tariff. It says:—

"It appears from the resolutions recently adopted by the Democracy of Pennsylvania, that they are determined to interpolate a Protective tariff into the platform of the party. Their language is susceptible of no misconstruction. Nay, they avow their heresies in a tone of defiance which demands a response from the Democracy of the Union. For ourselves we have no hesitation in accepting the issue. However painful and embarrassing a controversy with political associates, we prefer it to the alternative of an apostasy from our principles. And whatever the consequences of division, we have a satisfactory assurance that the responsibility is not on our shoulders. It dissembler and defeat ensue, we will be consoled by the consciousness of an inflexible fidelity to the faith of the party."

The following is the resolution adopted by the Pennsylvania Democratic Convention, referred to above:—

"Resolved, That the Democracy of Pennsylvania has always advocated and still advocates an adequate encouragement and discriminating protection of iron and coal, and of the industrial interests of this State, within the scope of a tariff for necessary revenue; and believing that the revenue accruing from the existing tariff will be insufficient for the unavoidable expenditures of the Federal Government, and that an obstinate adherence to it will result in the accumulation, in time of peace, of a heavy national debt, always dangerous to the peace, liberty, and prosperity of a free people, they now, by their representatives in this Convention, earnestly invite the people of this State, by a frank and cordial support of the policy of the first President whom Pennsylvania has given to the Union, to aid and strengthen him in his future endeavors to procure a revision of the tariff act of 1857 by the next Congress on the principle set forth in his last annual message."

Lord Elgin has recently made a voyage of exploration up the Yang-tze-Kiang, in China, for the purpose of selecting, from personal observation, the marts in the interior of that vast Empire, which are best adapted for foreign trade. The Baltimore Exchange says:—"The object which Lord Elgin evidently had in view, in planning his expedition, was, by a prompt movement, with a portion of the squadron acting under his orders, to counteract any undue influence which might otherwise be brought to bear upon merchant vessels navigating the northern rivers of China, and, while establishing the right which had been conceded to penetrate into the interior of the Empire, to maintain that right by force of arms if any show of opposition should be made. The presence of foreign war vessels in the heart of Northern China, six hundred miles from the ocean, was a formal assertion of the privileges which had recently been acquired. It was, moreover, an intimation to the inhabitants of the various populous cities upon the banks of the Great River, of the fact that the country had been opened up to foreign commerce." The equal footing upon which our commercial relations are placed by the one saving clause in Mr. Reed's treaty of Tian-tsin—a clause which is to the effect, "that the provisions of the Treaty of Commerce, signed at Peking, shall be applied to the ports of the Republic of China," is a subject of much importance to us as to the nation he so ably represents.

A case has lately been decided in the U. S. Circuit Court, in New York, in which the Judge ruled that the Post Office laws were within the meaning of the term, revenue laws, because the revenue of the Post Office is as much the revenue of the United States as are taxes, duties, and customs on foreign goods imported into the country. This decision bears upon the constitutional question whether the Senate could initiate a measure to increase postage, upon which the Senate and House of Representatives at the recent session of Congress differed—a difference which resulted in the failure of the Post Office appropriation bill. The Circuit Court, it will be seen, held that the post office laws were revenue laws equally with those relating to taxes, duties, or customs on foreign merchandise. As, therefore, the provision which the Senate proposed to incorporate in the Post Office appropriations was not an amendment affecting the appropriations proposed, but a measure for raising revenue by increasing the rates of postage, it was none the less an original measure for raising revenue, although offered in the form of an amendment to a bill for other purposes, if, as the court has decided in the above-mentioned case, the revenues of the Post Office Department are to be deemed revenues equally with taxes.

In view of the failure of Congress to make any appropriation for the support of the postal system during the next fiscal year, Postmaster General Holt finds it to be his imperative duty to curtail in every practicable way the expenses of that department. He has therefore issued his order that all orders heretofore made by the Postmaster General allowing to postmasters any sum or sums of money out of the postages collected at said offices, be and the same are rescinded from and after the 31st day of March next. This saves to the department about \$21,000 a year. The head of the department, directing his attention to another branch of the service, has discontinued seventeen of the thirty-one special agencies, thereby reducing the annual expenditures some sixty thousand dollars per annum.

The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia American writes to that paper as follows, under date of the 18th instant:—

"According to reliable intelligence here, an other filibustering expedition against Nicaragua is planned, if not quite matured, and the departure of Gen. Walker for California is directly connected with it, as the movement, this time, is to be organized on, and to start from, the Pacific side. His recent ostentatious profession of religion, has doubtless been a motive of policy as of religion, in the hope of operating upon the prejudices of a people who regard him with unmitigated aversion."

The Chesapeake and Delaware Canal give notice that, until further notice, a maximum rate of Toll of fifty dollars will be charged on each and every sail vessel passing through the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal. Provided that the toll on the cargo of any such vessel shall, by the present toll rates, amount to more than the above sum.

The depth of water in the canal is 10 feet; vessels drawing 9 feet can pass through. New locks are each 220 feet long, 24 feet wide, 10 feet water on the miter sill. The height of the Summit Bridge from under side thereof, 76 feet 10 inches to surface of water.

Official information went out in yesterday's Pacific mail, of the ratification of the treaties with the Indians in Oregon and Washington. As this took place during the late extraordinary session of the Senate, after Congress had adjourned, no appropriation could be made to carry them into immediate effect. By these treaties the title to fifty millions of acres of land will be extinguished, at a cost to this government of 34 cents per acre. A resolution passed the Senate, almost unanimously, providing that hereafter, when it is proposed to buy Indian lands, the Senate shall first be consulted before entering into treaty stipulations.

The Washington Star says:—"The latest advice received by the government from the Paraguay expedition confirm the former reports that Brazil and the Argentine Confederation have offered to act as mediators between the United States and Paraguay. Commissioner Bowlin, of course, informed them that he had no authority to accept their offers, unless he should receive further instructions from the authorities here. Meanwhile he will proceed in conformity with his previous instructions, and it is probable that the difficulties with Paraguay will be settled without the proffered interposition."

A great Ida Hill landslide occurred at Troy, N. Y., on Thursday night, with destructive consequences, as it broke down and buried up a large portion of St. Peter's College, in course of erection. The building was intended to be a very large one; 200 feet in length and five stories high, with two towers. The slide was noiseless until it struck the side of the building, when there was a fearful crash of walls and timbers. The centre of the building is buried up to the depth of several feet. Loss about \$5,000.

A leading Liverpool house writes to the Asia as follows:—"Politics are still dragging on in an unsatisfactory way; peaceful professions are belied by a continuation of extensive warlike armaments, and the good faith of some concerned is strongly suspected. Great apprehension exists on the Continent, and business there as well as here suffers accordingly. If an immediate outbreak should even be averted, distrust would still continue, and confidence could only be restored if there were a general disarmament."

The Richmond Dispatch says that an intelligent gentleman of that city, recently from Cuba, says that, "except among a few persons engaged in the American trade, the opposition there to filibustering and annexation is universal. They have no more desire to be annexed to the United States than Louisiana has to be annexed to Spain." "Of all sections in this country," adds the Dispatch, "the South is the very last that should disturb the rights of Spain in Cuba."

Latter advice received by the steamer Quaker City put a different face upon Mexican affairs. We now have the statement that Miramon had not been beaten, as previously reported, but that the mishap had befallen a detachment thrown out by him in the direction of Jalapa. With his main body he is said to have proceeded on his march towards Vera Cruz, at whose gates the latest rumor leaves him, with a numerous army and a heavy battery.

Bishop McIlvaine, of Ohio, has recently returned from an eight months' tour in Europe, and this event was celebrated in Cincinnati, on Tuesday last, by a portion of the clergy of his diocese and the people of his charge. The meeting of the clergy was at the vestry of St. John's church, in the afternoon. In the evening, at Christ church, the parishioners of the Bishop assembled, when very interesting services were held, and the Bishop made an address.

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court now in session in Philadelphia, rendered its decision on Monday, in the case of Lawrence County vs. Northwestern Railroad Company. The opinion of the Court, delivered by Chief Justice Lowrie, establishes in Pennsylvania the liability to innocent holders of the issues of municipal bonds, and declares that the remedy of cities against the companies, and not in resisting legal third parties.

In St. Louis, on Wednesday last, as already briefly mentioned by telegraph, James Hamilton, a meat seller, twenty-four years of age, in a paroxysm of jealousy, shot his wife, a young girl of eighteen, to whom he had been married only three months, and afterwards discharged a pistol into his own body, inflicting a wound from which he can hardly recover. Mrs. Hamilton's recovery is deemed probable.

The Norfolk (Va.) Herald learns, from good authority, that the Galveston steam-line company have determined to make that city one of the ports to run to. The agency is to be in the hands of Norris, Montgomery & Co. there. This line is already established on a firm basis, with a subsidy from the British Government of £70,000 per annum. Three new steamers for it are now being built. This is good news, indeed, for Norfolk.

From the Greenbrier Independent we learn that Hon. George W. Summers proposes to take the stump at the next Kanawha Court, in behalf of the Whig cause. Judge Summers is one of the finest and most effective orators in the Union, and we anticipate heavy gains for our ticket, wherever his eloquent voice may be heard. Let the other champions of the party imitate the example of Judge Summers!

At the next session of Congress the desks of members of the House are to be removed, and the seats of members brought nearer together. The experiment will have a better assurance of success if the franking privilege of members be abolished. Mr. Seward will attempt to introduce the new reform in the Senate.

The political contest in the Sixth Congressional District is getting to be as warm and animated as it is in the Seventh. Messrs. Powell and Leake are the contestants and combatants—both Democrats.

It is now thought that Mr. Mike Walsh was garrotted in the streets of New York, robbed of his watch and chain, and then thrown down the area, where he was found.

T. B. Peterson & Brothers, 306 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, are now engaged in publishing a remarkably cheap edition of the Waterville Novels. The first, "Ivanhoe," appeared on Saturday, March 5th, the next, "Guy Mannering," on March 12th, and "Rob Roy," on the 19th, and so on, one novel will be published regularly on each and every coming Saturday, until the whole number of volumes—twenty-six—is completed. The low price fixed by the publishers for them is only 25 cents a volume, or the whole twenty-six volumes for five dollars. The same publishers have just issued a new novel—the Lady of the Isle, by Mrs. Southworth—and a cheap edition of Sybil Grey, or the triumph of virtue. The Lady of the Isle is said to be Mrs. S's, "best work." Received and for sale at the book store of George E. French.

The "Reform" bill introduced into the British Parliament by the present Ministry, is the great subject of interest now in Great Britain. Its fate is very uncertain. The London press is divided in opinion as to the merits of the bill. The extremes of both parties seem to oppose it. The London Times urges that to allow a Tory Ministry to bring in a reform bill at all, implies a pledge of moderate expectations. The bill may, however, be read a second time, with the view of improving it in Committee, and proceeding, if the House be so minded, in another session with that redistribution of seats for which this bill makes no provision.

Mr. J. Glancy Jones, our Minister to Austria, writes home, that he has been favorably received at the Court to which he is accredited. He has just heard of the charges against him in connection with the government contracts with the Reading Force Company, and states that all that he ever received from the company was from two hundred to four hundred dollars, which sum was the amount shown to have been paid him for expenses for his visits to Washington. He adds: "I never made a contract for them with any man living. I recommended them to every one as a good company, and advised those having work to do, to invite their proposals at least. I never went behind this."

The London News publishes a long and remarkable letter by Signor Farini, the Italian historian and statesman, to Lord John Russell, on the Italian question. It declares that the question at issue between Sardinia and Austria is not a question of reform in one State of Italy or another, nor is it a sentimental question of nationality. It is a duel of two contending principles and a question of life, of bread, of house and home, for thousands of exiled and suffering men. It is not such a question as a merely humane man, such as Heop England will join France in securing the cause of Italian progress.

The New York Express says one of the patriots figuring in the list of Secretaries of the so-called "great demonstration" to endorse the President's Cuba policy, "at Tanaman Hall, on Monday evening, was taken into custody on Sunday last, for being 'drunk and disorderly'; also, for 'biting a man's face.' The Justice before whom he was conveyed, however, let him off in season to be on hand, with Senator Brown and the rest of the Manifestationists."

On Friday night, about 11 o'clock, a serious accident occurred on the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore railroad, near Elkton, by which two men were killed. The engine of the freight train burst its boiler, near Elkton, instantly killing Lewis S. Hall, engineer, and Edward Bowen, fireman. The locomotive was torn to fragments, and four of the burden cars were broken to pieces.

Messrs. Goggin and Letcher are "hard at it," making speeches. They were at Wytheville, on the 17th inst. The last accounts say that every where Mr. Goggin makes the most favorable impression—that his speeches are able and effective—and that he stirs up his friends to activity and enthusiasm in his support.

The Louisville Journal, cheered by the signs in the Virginia and Kentucky horizons, remarks:—"The examples set by the Opposition in Virginia and Kentucky have given encouragement to conservatives everywhere to strengthen to conservatism everywhere. The New York Express well observes that, when Virginia and Kentucky agree to 'set the ball in motion,' the ball is bound to roll."

Two boys, named Plotner and Jourdan, aged respectively 16 and 12 years, were accidentally drowned near Kinsels Ferry, on the upper Potomac river, on Sunday week. They ventured upon an insecure raft in the river, the sudden partial sinking of which so much alarmed them, that they jumped into the river.

The Italians, of New York, propose to open a subscription throughout the United States to offer to the King of Sardinia a sword, the hilt of which shall consist of a small statue of Italy, in pure California gold, as a tribute of sympathy and admiration offered by the Italians here to the champion of national independence in Italy.

The Richmond Dispatch says that there is a larger number of new and handsome dwellings and stores commenced and projected in that city for this spring and the ensuing summer than at any time for any preceding year, and that there is a very great improvement in the style and architecture of the new buildings.

Rev. Dr. Thomas Curtis, who lost his life by the burning of the North Carolina, is the "dissenting minister of England" referred to in the last number of *Bibliotheca Sacra* as the first to discover and prove the fact that two editions of the "authorized version" of the Bible were printed in the year 1611.

The steamship Weser, which arrived at New York on Friday evening, encountered large quantities of ice-bergs. The steamship Asia has also arrived at New York, bringing fifty-seven passengers. Her arrivals, however, are no later than by the Weser.

Geo. P. Morris, chief editor of the Home Journal, in New York, has been appointed consul to Havre, by the President. Mr. Morris will be recognized as a popular literary man, and long famous for the production of some of the best songs in our American literature.

Gen. Totten, chief of engineers, writes from Napoleon that he met ex-President Pierce in that city, to which he occasionally came from the island of Capri to get his mails. His health is excellent and that of Mrs. Pierce was much improved.

Letter from Baltimore.

Baltimore, March 19.—Up to the present time the trade of this city, this season, is very light. I hear but one complaint, (some few houses excepted,) and that is, (usual) dullness in all branches of trade. The advantages of Canal navigation over the Railroad, for all heavy goods, is inducing merchants from the Cumberland region to go from this to your city this season, for the express purpose of buying groceries, salt, fish, &c. I have known of several cases myself, and I suppose there are others of whom I have not heard. One merchant from Cumberland who told me he expected to go to Alexandria to buy such goods as spoken of, gave as his reason for so doing, first, the cheapness of freight, as compared with the Railroad, and second, that he found the Alexandria merchants so clever and accommodating he did not like to pass them by altogether. Such is the voluntary report of this man, and so it should be with every man who goes to your city to deal. It is the opinion of those whose experience and observation should make them competent to judge, that the country merchants can far better any where than in Alexandria, so far as they have the stock to supply them. More work is done there for the same money, and more done for nothing, "merely thank you," than in any other city. Greater indulgence is expected and received than in any other commercial place, and from necessity, if for no other reason, the business is done mostly at small profit. With your merchants the effort is to stop the trade, and to do so they must accept of moderate rates, compared even with prices in later years. Were I a country merchant, as a matter of policy, I should visit Alexandria, and take time to examine well the different stocks of goods, and should expect to make my cheapest buys there. For groceries, boots and shoes, hardware, queensware, and tobacco and cigars, and salt, and very many other kinds of goods, Alexandria is undoubtedly the market for the country merchant. As an evidence of this fact some of the closest buyers and best merchants are rarely, if ever, known to buy certain of the above goods out of your city. Why should it not be so? Take for instance, boots and shoes. They are manufactured in Massachusetts, and there the jobbers of *every* city must go to get them. New York has no advantage over Alexandria in that market. Freight from Boston is about the same to either port, and rent and clerks' hire, and other expenses very much cheaper with you, of course. Who then ought to look at facts and not be governed by the outward appearance? We may expect to find them more successful in their undertakings. A wise merchant will not shut both eyes and run with the multitude, but will keep his eyes open and look as he goes along, and if he can buy goods as cheap or cheaper in "Nazereth" than he can in "Jerusalem," and save freight and risks of transportation, &c. he will do it, and it is only those who *think* they know more than *they* do, who act differently. In this city, a brisk trade is expected, and it is expected that the port will not be such will be the case, and I hope now will be disappointed. Baltimore ought now to have control of the Southern trade, but unfortunately for her, while she slept, New York soiled her, and now her hopes, so centered in the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, a forlorn hope, I think. A SOLICITOR.

Log-Rolling at Washington. The following extract from the official report, in the Washington Globe, of the proceedings pending the Naval Appropriation bill in the U. S. Senate, affords a fine sample of what is known as the log-rolling system, as applied to the Congressional appropriations.

"The next amendment, made in Committee of the Whole, was, in line ninety-seven to strike out 'at Mare Island, California, \$200,000,' and insert 'at Mare Island, California, \$200,000.' Mr. Simmons—I hope that amendment will be adopted; and upon it I call for the yeas and nays. [Oh, no!]

The yeas and nays were ordered. Mr. Gwin—I ask the Senate if they are going to strike out all the navy-yards to leave us none on the Pacific coast. Mr. Simmons—I have but one word to say on this subject, Mr. President—'Let us vote.' Well, sir, if I carry without them, I will make no remarks upon it. I wished to express the reason why I should vote for it; but if Senators desire to take a vote, and will agree to the amendment, I will not say a word.

Mr. Gwin—I hope that I shall get some votes here. Mr. Lane—Is it too late to ask for the yeas and nays? The Vice President—It is not. Mr. Gwin—Is the bill in the Senate? The Vice President—The bill is in the Senate.

Mr. Gwin—Is this the end of it? The Vice President—This is the end of it. Mr. Gwin—Now, Mr. President, is it open for discussion? The Vice President—Are the yeas and nays demanded by the Senator from Oregon? Mr. Lane—Yes sir; I want the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered. Mr. Hammond—Mr. President, will you state the question? Mr. Clay—We all know what it is. The Vice President—The Secretary will read the amendment upon which the yeas and nays have been ordered.

Mr. Clay—It is upon the California Mare Island navy-yard. The Secretary read the amendment. Mr. Hammond—I desire to say, to preserve my consistency in this matter, that, as the Senate has struck out all the other amendments, I shall vote against this one as part of the whole.

Mr. Broderick—I gave notice some time since, that I intended to vote against the New York Navy Yard, but withdrew my objection with the understanding that the Senator from South Carolina would sustain the Mare Island appropriation. He appealed to me, and I withdrew my objection to the amendment then under consideration.

Mr. Hammond—I did not consider that any bargain. I told him I should vote against Mare Island, if he voted against New York; but I did not suppose I was to vote for his navy-yard, after everything else was struck out.

Mr. Gwin—I suppose it is intended to pass this bill tonight, or at least to vote on it. [Yes.] Then I give notice, although I never voted upon an appropriation, that I shall do everything that I can to defeat this bill, if the navy-yards are thrown out.

Mr. Hamilton—Very well. The question being taken by yeas and nays it resulted as follows: Yeas 22. So California was drawn overboard, notwithstanding the kindness of her Senator in withdrawing his objections to the appropriation for Brooklyn!

Dreadful Death from Hydrophobia. A man named Joseph Wright, who was bitten about six weeks ago by a rabid dog, died in Cincinnati on Wednesday from hydrophobia. The Enquirer says:—"On the Sunday previous he became stark mad, and at night, when his hair and flesh, and (famed at the month) and screamed like a demon, presenting a sight terrible to behold. It was necessary to bind him to the bed to prevent him from committing violence upon himself, and often in his excitement he tried to be killed at once and relieved of his sufferings. The sight of water, or the mention of the term, threw him into spasms, and he fell trembling and groaning upon the floor. He finally expired, and the poor man's wasted frame may be, it was awful to contemplate, and would have startled and horrified the dustiest and most unimpassioned nature. At last death came in mercy, and touched him with the hand of eternal sleep."

"A Democratic Editor Disgraced." The editor of the Weekly News, published at Enterprise, in Alabama, seems to be considerably set back by the recent turn of events in the Democratic household. We would offer him consolation if we knew what to say; but, the truth is, we are equally at a loss with himself. Hearing him *quipped*, "I have no longer affiliate with the Democracy," it is because it has denied its former faith and gone off after strange gods whom we cannot worship. Our love for the *Democratic* party was not of that character that would induce us to uphold it, right or wrong; to throw up our cap and cry "bravo!" at its every act, however discount to our feelings. As long as the Democratic party was guided by its ancient landmarks we adhered to it through evil as well as good report, but when it abandoned them we abandoned it and set up on our own hook."

A Whaling in the Chesapeake. On Friday morning when near Old Point, on the trip to Norfolk, Capt. Pearson, of the steamer Georgia, noticed something just ahead which rose eight or ten feet above the surface of the water. He supposed it was the hull of a wrecked vessel which had been thrown up by the violence of the sea, and to avoid a collision changed the course of his vessel. In a few minutes it rose again, not so high as the first, but yards distant from the steamer, when Capt. P. and several of the passengers discovered that it was a whale. While on the surface it spouted two streams of water to the height of thirty or forty feet. The appearance of a whale in the Chesapeake is of rare occurrence.—*Balt. Sun.*

The German Steamships. The directors of the North German Lloyd Steamship Company of Bremen—owning the steamships Bremen, New York, Weser, and the ill-fated Hudson—have made a report to their stockholders, from which it appears that the last year's business has resulted in a net loss of 250,000 thalers, or nine-and-a-half per cent. of the entire paid in capital of the Company—2,804,200 thalers. They state, however, that this result is due to the unpropitious season in which the line was established, and to the series of disasters encountered by their vessels, the most serious of which was the burning of the Hudson.

Gold near Cincinnati. We are informed by Mr. Baen, in preparing the general index in the county auditor's office, that gold diggings have recently been discovered in section twenty-eight, Symmes township, about one mile almost due west from Pickdown, on the Little Miami railroad. We expressed incredulity, but our informant proved his sincerity by visiting the place on Sunday, and confirms his statement. The place is in a little branch called Dry Run, which enters the Little Miami river below Pickdown, and is on the premises of Mr. Nathaniel Humphrey.—*Cincinnati Commercial.*

Corporation donations to the out-door poor in New York, are to be stopped on the 1st day of April next.

The late Storm, Freshets, &c.

We have telegraph and mail accounts of more or less damage done by the violent storm of wind on Friday and Saturday. At Wheeling, Va., several houses were uninjured, but at Norfolk and all along the Chesapeake bay the gale was very severe, but so far, no serious disaster is reported. From the North we have accounts of disastrous freshets. There has been a very destructive freshet in the Connecticut river, consequent upon the breaking up of the ice.

BELLEVILLE, N. J., March 19.—About 100 cars of the track between Bordentown and White Hill has been washed away, and the trains from Philadelphia have been compelled to return to Trenton, from whence the passengers were sent on via Jersey city.

PORTSMOUTH, Pa., March 19.—This region of country has been visited by heavy rains, which will prove very disastrous to the mining interests hereabouts. A great many mines have been suspended, and operations in them have been suspended. The roads below here are submerged, and a break is reported in the canal.

HARRISBURG, March 19.—A violent storm occurred here last night, causing the river to become very high. Five spans of Clark's bridge have been blown down and floated past here this morning.

READING, March 19.—The river rose at this place seven feet, but has fallen considerably. We have not heard of any serious damage. DENNIS, Pa., March 19.—The high water has stopped the Duncannon Iron Works but no damage has been done. The bridges across the Juniata are all safe.

At N. York, throughout Friday night and Saturday a still gale from the southwest prevailed, obliging vessels in the bay and river to lay with two anchors down. We have not, however, heard of any damage received by them or by vessels lying at the wharves. A schooner went ashore on Ronger shoal, but was got off, and towed up to Jersey City. A large number of hogheads of sugar on Kelsey's wharf, Brooklyn, was damaged by the sea breaking over the docks. The gale was no doubt heavy on the Sound, as the Eastern steamers were behind time in arriving.

TELEGRAPHIC DESPATCHES. READING, March 19.—The full returns of the election held here yesterday for mayor, councilmen and aldermen, show that Hon. Benjamine Keim, the people's candidate, was elected by a majority of 944, a majority of the votes in the whole five wards cast in his favor. All of the people's candidates for the other offices were elected by large majorities over democrats.

WHEELING, D. C., March 20th.—It is understood that the indictment against Mr. Sickles, for the murder of Key, will be presented to-morrow, when his counsel, Messrs. Radcliffe, Chilton and Staunton, will ask for an immediate trial. The following Monday will probably be fixed upon. Mr. Sickles says that Mr. Butterworth had no knowledge of his intention to kill Key. Mr. Sickles is not to have the aid of legal friends from New York, nor has Mr. Reverly Johnson been retained by him. Ex-Senator Badger, it is said, is to assist the District Attorney.

MEMPHIS, March 18.—A crevasse occurred on Wednesday night in the bank of the Mississippi river at Tula, sixty-five miles above Vicksburg, by which the plantation of E. Sikes was destroyed. The breach in the bank is increasing, and the adjacent country is being flooded.

DETROIT, March 19.—The express train on the Great Western railway, on Friday night, ran off the track, by which some four or five persons were killed, including the engineer. Several persons were also wounded. ST. JOHNS, N. F., March 19.—The steamer Pacific arrived last night, from Galway, with dates to the 14th inst. Her arrivals have been anticipated.

WASHINGTON, March 20.—Senator Mata, the minister of the Juarez government, left here today on his return to Vera Cruz, by way of New Orleans.

The Letcher and Goggin Question. Our steady State Rights and Whilom Secession contemporary, the Charleston Mercury, has this said plaudit:—"The Virginia papers come to us every morning, barren of all news or information, except the eternal Letcher and Goggin contest. Letcher and Goggin—Letcher and Goggin—nothing but Letcher and Goggin. Why, one might suppose the fate of the world depended on Letcher and Goggin—in stead of a few State officers, and a future chance of a Cabinet appointment. We are tired of hearing of Letcher and Goggin. Can our Virginia friends send us nothing but Letcher and Goggin for our morning news? Let us hear of something else besides Letcher and Goggin?"

Close Voting. From the returns of the New Hampshire election, reported in the Concord Statesman, we find that in thirty-four instances the Republican and Democratic candidates had exactly the number of votes cast at the election in 1858 by the same party. In many instances, the party vote was within one of that cast the previous year. In twenty-nine cases it was within two; in twenty-two cases within three; in twenty-seven cases within four; twenty-five cases within five; twenty-six cases within six; fourteen instances within seven; seventeen cases within eight; and eleven cases within nine votes of the last election, making 245 instances in all where there was not ten votes difference between the two years.—*Boston Transcript.*

Contest Always. We have heretofore been opposed to the Whig party in Virginia taking advantage of the discussions in the Democratic party, and naming candidates in opposition where there are two or more of the Democracy in the field. But when we reflect upon the unfair apportionment made by the Democratic Legislature, whereby seventy thousand of the sovereign voters of the State were disfranchised, we now believe it the duty of the Whig party to contest every district in the State. Let them not, by voting for a Democrat, give an apparent strength which does not belong to them.—*Charleston Free Press.*

Shocking Affair. FINE CHILDREN BURNED TO DEATH.—A most distressing casualty occurred in Forsyth county, Ga., on Friday night week. Ellis Waldrop and his wife, about nine o'clock at night, left their four children, two girls and two boys, the eldest twelve years old, and walked to a neighbor's house, a quarter of a mile off, to see a sick person. They left their children all asleep. On returning home, they discovered their house in flames, and were unable to reach the scene of the awful calamity until after the building had fallen in. The children all perished in the flames—very one they had in the world!

Bad News for Emigrants. Latest advices from the frontier say that the Platte river is rushing down in a flood full nine miles wide. Hundreds of early emigrants, bound for the gold mines, were encamped on its banks, waiting opportunity to cross. Fort Kearney is surrounded by water, and the Missouri, under the influence of the flood, is higher than ever before known thus early in the season.

The Philadelphia Evening Journal, heretofore neutral as regards party politics, has come out in a strong article in favor of the Hon. James Guthrie, of Kentucky, for the next presidency. The newspapers are fast running into a "Presidential canvass."

Late and Interesting Foreign News.

The Paris-Moniteur of March 19, contains an article from which the following is an extract:—"The serious condition of Italian affairs has attracted the attention of the Emperor, whose endeavors are to conclude an alliance in furtherance of the interest of France. The Emperor has promised the King of Sardinia to protect him against any aggressive acts of Austria, but his promise extended no further. The Emperor denies that France is making warlike preparations. She has not extended the effective force she is accustomed to maintain during peace. Assuming that preparations in the arsenal have received any extraordinary impulse, it is because changes were necessary in our artillery and in the whole of our fleet. All our naval preparations are limited to the arming of four frigates and four transports to meet imminent emergencies. It is absurd to represent the Emperor as pushing war, and to cast on him alone the responsibility of having caused warlike preparations in Europe."

The Austrian despatch at different Courts of Germany, is published in *extenso*. War is considered in the Cabinet as the possible consequence of the intention of Austria to defend against every attack her rights in Italy, and satisfaction is expressed at the state of public opinion in Germany, which is united in an energetic protestation against a return of the days of the confederation of the Rhine. The despatch makes known the grounds which have induced the Cabinet to believe the moment is not come for the German Confederation to take decided measures, but it advises the German governments mutually to communicate to each other their convictions of their danger, so that all that certainly might be established, in case of need, Germany would be the proper time in union with Austria.

The circular issued by the Prussian Ambassador on the 20th of February, expresses the opinion that the existing difficulties, and the real danger of a European rupture, do not arise so much from the impossibility of solving any special questions, as from the tone which has been assumed between the cabinets of Vienna and Paris, and which has risen to such a height as to give rise to serious uneasiness. The King's Government, animated with a sincere desire to preserve the validity of treaties, has directed its efforts to the task of pointing out, both at Paris and Vienna, the incalculable danger of a conflict.

The tone of the government journals of France was becoming still more beligerent, and the various correspondents of the London papers write as if war was likely to be the only solution of the difficulty.

The Paris correspondent of the Daily News says that the utter absence of warlike preparations in the army, is bitterly lamented, and causes unforgotten surprise in the Imperial circle. The soldiers whose term of service has expired do not re-enlist, in spite of the great advantages which are held out to them.

The Times' Paris correspondent says that in a very recent interview between the Royal Prince in Paris and M. Wladowski, the latter who is strongly opposed to war spoke so much to the point on the obnoxious of the Pontifical government, in refusing the concession so much required by its subjects, that theuncio is said to have asked whether it was Nuncio to compel him to demand his passports. The reply was that there was no intention of the kind, but that there was no moment to disguise the truth.

The latest correspondence of the London Times says that confidence in the success of Lord Cowley's mission to Vienna was, among official people, reduced to the very lowest stage.

A rumor was current that the evacuation of Rome by the French was postponed until the arrival of a strong body of Swiss troops. Letters from Piacenza announce that the number of Austrian troops in that place was increasing daily. Almost 12,000 men had been placed on a war footing since the 1st of March.

The Malta Times states that orders had been received from England to put the island and fortress of Valletta in a state of defence, and that the works were being carried on.

The cabinet of Vienna had agreed to maintain 150,000 men in Lombardy to create fortifications in all directions. It was stated in military circles that the Archduke Albert and Baron Hess had been made marshals.

The lower classes of Vienna were becoming exceedingly warlike. The Austrian government is said to have contracted with the Lombard-Venetian railway for the transport of 75,000 men during the month ending on the 20th of March.

The official Vienna Gazette contains the following in its non-official part: "As soon as the notification in writing to Cardinal Antonelli arrives here, it is understood that the evacuation of the States of the Church by the Austrian troops will follow, because of the Holy Father is decisive."

It was said that Austria would grant to foreign vessels the privilege of navigating the Danube.